



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2016118063

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Geotechnical and Archaeological Investigations for Utility Modernization Project
(Project ID No. 10877P)

LOCATION: Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve **COUNTY:** San Diego

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The purpose of this project is to conduct natural resource survey, archaeological survey and geotechnical investigations/engineering services to determine suitable alignment locations and depth based on subsurface geology for new underground utility lines including water, sewer, gas, electric, and telecommunications

Archaeological testing: Work will include pedestrian survey along the entire route consisting of two to four archaeologists walking the route. Testing will include excavation of approximately 130 hand-excavated auger tests (approximately 10cm diameter) or shovel test pits (approximately 30cm diameter) placed in intervals of approximately 50 meters along the proposed utility routes.

Geotechnical testing: Drilling in the center of the Torrey Pines Park Road: remove approximately 2-inch diameter plugs of concrete which will be epoxied back into place once the soil sample is extracted. Depth will be a minimum of 10 feet. Approximately 10 cores beginning on the southern property line and extending to Torrey Pines Lodge, with one final sample to be taken at the entrance to the High Point Trail.

A State Environmental Scientist/DPR-approved biologist shall monitor (at his/her discretion) the drilling, testing and surveying activities to ensure that effects to listed/sensitive species and habitats are avoided.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation.
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: San Diego Coast

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
- ☐ Statutory Exemption
- ☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 6 Section(s): 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the project description including conditions provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15306 - Information Collection. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Soils and structural engineering tests", "Archaeological investigations by Department staff", and "Resource studies/inventories" (Class 6, Section 15306)

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Don Smith for Robin GREENE

Robin Greene
District Superintendent, San Diego Coast District

11/1/16 Date

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE